

# FACT SHEET

**Topic:** Adult Protective Services

**Purpose:**

- The provision of adult protective services is mandated by Public Act 519 of 1982.
- Program staff investigate allegations of abuse, neglect or exploitation and provide protection to vulnerable adults.
- Policy requires that investigations begin within 24 hours after a complaint is received.

**Priority:** Safety

**Outcome:** The Adult Protective Services (APS) Program provides services to a growing number of cases. More than 9,390 APS investigations were completed in Calendar Year 2001. The APS average monthly caseload nearly doubled from FY 1993 to FY 2002.

**Major Talking Points:**

- APS serves persons 18 years or older who have been abused, neglected or exploited and are unable to take the steps necessary to correct their situation.
- 69% of adult mistreatment victims are over age 60
- 60% of adult mistreatment victims are women.
- 70% of case determinations were neglect.
- 15% were abuse.
- 15% were exploitation.
- Neglect is more frequent among female victims.
- Self-neglect is more frequent among males.
- When the perpetrator is a spouse, abuse is the most frequent form of mistreatment.
- When the perpetrator is an adult child, neglect is the most likely form of mistreatment.
- APS referrals can be made by anyone.
- The identity of the reporting person is kept confidential.

**Links to Governor Granholm's Values:** Teamwork, Inclusion

**How It Works:** The following individuals are required to report suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of adults:

- Those employed, licensed, registered or certified to provide the following services (including agency employees who provide these services):
  - Health care
  - Education services
  - Social welfare services
  - Mental health services

- Other human services (includes homes for the aged and adult foster care homes)
- Law enforcement officers
- Employees of the county medical examiner

Based on legal definitions, referrals are screened to determine if there is sufficient justification to warrant assignment for investigation. Justification exists if:

- The alleged victim is an adult at risk of harm from abuse, neglect or exploitation, and there is reasonable belief that the alleged victim is vulnerable and in need of protective services. Vulnerability is defined as a condition in which an adult is unable to protect himself or herself from abuse, neglect or exploitation because of a mental or physical impairment or because of advanced age.

ABUSE is defined as harm or threatened harm to an adult's health or welfare caused by another person.

NEGLECT is defined as harm to an adult's health or welfare caused by the inability Of the adult to respond to a harmful situation (self-neglect) or the conduct of a person who assumes responsibility for a significant aspect of the adult's health or welfare.

EXPLOITATION is defined as the misuse of an adult's funds, property or personal dignity by another person.

**Numbers:** (See [attached chart](#))

**Sources of Financing:**

- Social Security Act Title XX
- State Funds

**Legal Base:**

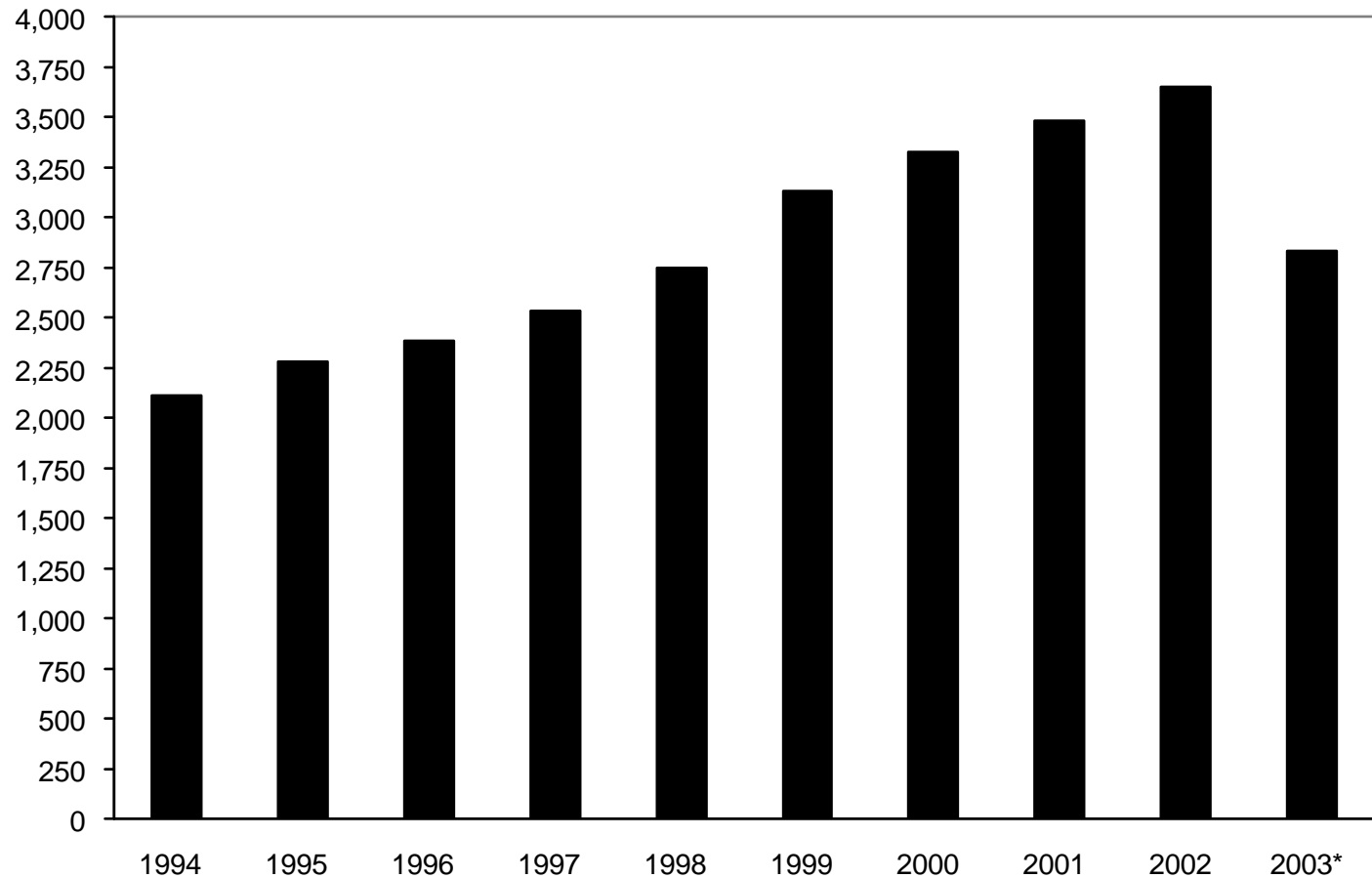
- Public Act 280 as amended
- Public Act 529 of 2003 (FY 2004 FIA Appropriations Act)

**Experts:** Cynthia Farrell (517) 335-6311, Mike Sullivan (517) 373-9172

# ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES CASELOAD TRENDS

## FY 1994 - FY 2003

*Average Monthly Caseload*



■ Average Monthly Caseload	2,110	2,277	2,383	2,532	2,750	3,131	3,324	3,478	3,652	2,831
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- The caseload decrease from FY 2002 to FY 2003 is due, in part, to Wayne County reviews that identified over 600 cases as no longer receiving services. As a result, those cases were closed.

\* FY 2003 caseload average (year-to-date: October 2002 - August 2003).